

U. S. PLANT PATENT APPLICATION OF

CHRISTA KIEVIT

FOR: CALIBRACHOA PLANT NAMED

‘KIECARED’

KIEVIT, Christa

TITLE: CALIBRACHOA PLANT NAMED 'KIECARED'

APPLICANT: CHRISTA KIEVIT

BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION/CULTIVAR DESIGNATION:

Calibrachoa procumbens cultivar Kiecare

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Calibrachoa plant, botanically known as *Calibrachoa procumbens*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name Kiecare.

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The new Calibrachoa is a product of a planned breeding program conducted by the Inventor in Venhuizen, The Netherlands. The objective of the breeding program is to create new trailing Calibrachos with numerous flowers with attractive flower colors.

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The new Calibrachoa originated from a cross-pollination made by the Inventor during the summer of 1999 of a proprietary Calibrachoa selection identified as K145/97, not patented, as the female, or seed parent, with a proprietary Calibrachoa selection identified as K141/97,

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not patented, as the male, or pollen parent. The new Calibrachoa was selected as a single flowering plant from the resulting progeny by the Inventor in a controlled environment in 1999 in Venhuizen, The Netherlands.

5 Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal cuttings taken in Venhuizen, The Netherlands since 1999 has shown that the unique features of this new Calibrachoa are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

10 Plants of the cultivar Kiecare have not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature and light intensity without, however, any variance in genotype.

 The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are
15 determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Kiecare'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Kiecare' as a new and distinct cultivar:

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1. Uniform, outwardly spreading, mounded and trailing plant habit.
2. Freely and continuous branching habit; dense and bushy plant growth habit.
- 5 3. Freely flowering habit, numerous red-colored flowers.

Plants of the new Calibrachoa differ from the female parent in plant growth habit as plants of the female parent are not as trailing as plants of the new Calibrachoa. Plants of the new Calibrachoa differ from the male parent primarily in flower color as plants of the male parent have dark salmon-colored flowers.

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Plants of the new Calibrachoa can be compared to plants of the Calibrachoa cultivar Carillon Carmine, not patented. In side-by-side comparisons conducted in Venhuizen, The Netherlands, plants of the new Calibrachoa differed from plants of the cultivar Carillon Carmine in the following characteristics:

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1. Plants of the new Calibrachoa flowered more continuously than plants of the cultivar Carillon Carmine.

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2. Plants of the new Calibrachoa had red-colored flowers that resisted fading whereas plants of the cultivar Carillon Carmine had carmine-colored flowers that faded with development.

5 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new cultivar, showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited
10 in the detailed botanical description which accurately describe the colors of the new Calibrachoa.

The photograph at the top of the sheet comprises a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Kiecare' grown in a container. The photograph at the bottom of the sheet comprises a close-
15 up view of typical flowers and leaves of 'Kiecare'.

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DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The aforementioned photographs and following observations and measurements describe plants grown in Lompoc, California, under commercial practice during the summer and fall in a polycarbonate-covered greenhouse with day temperatures about 21 to 27°C, night
5 temperatures about 16 to 18°C, and light levels about 5,000 to 9,000 foot-candles. Three cuttings were planted per 20-cm container and plants were grown for about 11 weeks. In the following description, color references are made to the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except
10 where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

BOTANICAL CLASSIFICATION:

Calibrachoa procumbens cultivar Kiecare.

PARENTAGE:

Female parent: Proprietary *Calibrachoa procumbens* selection
15 identified as K145/97, not patented.

Male parent: Proprietary *Calibrachoa procumbens* selection
identified as K141/97, not patented.

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PROPAGATION:

Type cutting: Terminal vegetative cuttings.

Time to initiate roots, summer and winter: About 10 days at 20°C.

Time to develop roots:

5 Summer: About 28 days at 20°C.

Winter: About 32 days at 20°C.

Root description: Fine, fibrous; white in color.

Rooting habit: Freely branching, moderately dense.

PLANT DESCRIPTION:

10 Form: Annual flowering plant; uniform, mounded, outwardly spreading and trailing plant habit; plants eventually becoming hemispherical to spherical in shape. Freely and continuously branching habit with about 12 main lateral branches per plant with lateral branches forming potentially at every node; dense and bushy

15 plant growth habit. Vigorous growth habit.

Usage: Appropriate for hanging baskets, window boxes, patio containers and landscape applications.

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Plant height: About 17 cm.

Plant diameter, single plant: About 34 cm.

Lateral branches:

Length: About 32 cm.

5 Diameter: About 3 mm.

Internode length: About 3.75 cm.

Texture: Pubescent.

Color: 146C.

Foliage description:

10 Arrangement: Before flowering, alternate; after flowering,
opposite; simple.

Length: About 4 cm.

Width: About 1.5 cm.

Shape: Elliptic to oblanceolate.

15 Apex: Broadly acute to rounded.

Base: Attenuate.

Margin: Entire.

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Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Slightly pubescent.

Venation pattern: Pinnate, arcuate.

Color:

Developing and mature foliage, upper surface: 146A.

5 Developing and mature foliage, lower surface: 146B.

Venation, upper and lower surfaces: 146D.

Petiole length: About 8 mm.

Petiole diameter: About 2 mm.

Petiole color: 146C.

10 FLOWER DESCRIPTION:

Flower type and habit: Salverform flowers; single, axillary. Flowers
face mostly upward or outward and are held above the foliage.
Flowers persistent.

15 Quantity of flowers: Very freely flowering, typically about 100 open
flowers and flower buds per plant.

Natural flowering season: Long day responsive; spring until frost in
the autumn; flowering continuous during the flowering period.

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Flower longevity on the plant: About 7 to 10 four days.

Fragrance: None detected.

Flower diameter: About 3.1 cm.

Flower depth (height): About 3 cm.

5 Flower buds (showing color):

Length: About 2.4 cm.

Diameter: About 5 mm.

Shape: Elongated oblong.

Color: More gray than 71A.

10 Corolla:

Arrangement/appearance: Single whorl of five petals, fused into flared trumpet with distinct clefts between petal lobes.

Petal length from throat: About 1.75 cm.

Petal width: About 2 cm.

15 Petal shape: Roughly spatulate or fan-shaped.

Petal apex: Obtuse.

Petal margin: Entire.

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Petal texture: Smooth, satiny.

Color:

- Petal, upper surface, when opening: Brighter than 53A.
- 5 Petal, lower surface, when opening: 186A to 186B.
- Petal, upper surface, fully opened: 46B to 46C; towards throat, brighter than 53A; color becoming closer to 60B to 60C with subsequent development.
- Petal, lower surface, fully opened: 186B.
- 10 Flower throat (inside): 14A.
- Flower tube (outside): 186B.
- Venation, upper and lower petal surfaces: Same as petal color.
- Venation, throat and tube: Same as throat and tube colors.
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Sepals:

Arrangement/appearance: Single whorl of five sepals fused at base, star-shaped.

Length: About 9 mm.

5 Width: About 2 mm.

Shape: Elliptic to lanceolate.

Apex: Acute.

Margin: Entire.

Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Pubescent.

10 Color, immature, upper and lower surfaces: 144A.

Color, mature, upper and lower surfaces: 146A.

Peduncles:

Length: About 1.5 cm.

Width: About 1 mm.

15 Angle: About 45 to 60° to the stem.

Strength: Strong.

Texture: Pubescent.

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Color: 146B.

Reproductive organs:

Stamens:

Quantity/arrangement: Five.

5 Anther shape: Ovoid.

Anther length: Less than 1 mm.

Anther color: 12A.

Pollen amount: Scarce.

Pollen color: 12A.

10 Pistils:

Quantity: One.

Pistil length: About 1.2 cm.

Stigma shape: Anvil-shaped.

Stigma color: 144B.

15 Style length: About 1 cm.

Style color: 144C.

Ovary color: 145A.

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Seed/fruit: Seed and fruit production has not been observed.

DISEASE/PEST RESISTANCE:

Plants of the new Calibrachoa have not been noted to be resistant to pathogens or pests common to Calibrachoa.